

MARKO JAKŠE

CEP, CEP, CEP

and still we remain unvaccinated, unsplit and unfallen, right?

2–25 September 2021

MMC KIBLA / KiBela

Jakše's paintings, created in the last year, span a dramatic arc of empathy for every earthly being, through a critique of the collective evil of the Anthropocene to the perception of the global imbalance of four fundamental elements: fires, dirty rising waters, depleted earth, and extreme air shocks, where very soon, only an islet of earthly paradise will be left. Marko Jakše vigilantly and sensitively translates individual, and collective fear into visual images tells beautiful and frightening stories with light in landscapes of calm and eerie epic dimensions and contrasting color compositions in dominant figures tied in disharmonious knots.

What is the thing that tames us and lies within us, squeezes from the inside out and the outside in? Grisly damaged nature is rapidly devouring our living space, and global pandemic measures have strongly undermined freedom; this essential value clung into this double grip. Responsive dialogue with the only existing entities here and now is the virtue of Marko Jakše. He is not yet a fugitive from the inevitable, and in the studio, he struggles with difficult to tame and uncontrollable opposites ... (A. K.)

BIOGRAPHY

Marko Jakše was born 1959 in Ljubljana, Slovenia. He graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts, Ljubljana, Slovenia in 1987. In 1993 he moved from the town to the country: he lives and works as a freelance artist in the hamlet of Mohorje, Slovenia. Jakše's debut in Maribor took place in 1996 in Pekarna and at the Maribor Art Gallery (UGM). Two years later, his exhibition Nojeva barka / The Ostrich's Ark laid the cornerstone for today's KiBela Gallery. Since then, one could say that Maribor has become, as it were, a second hometown for Marko Jakše. Always a favorite in the eyes of both the crowd and the critics, this rebel »with a cause« fights the Establishment because he believes that the system impoverishes art and strips art of its basic postulate, which is freedom.

»The necessity for renewal is urgent, so much that it burns... and I'm as eager as hell! The day is fresh and shiny, the sun rays glimmering through the linden tree like crystals, the sun grinning straight at me ... I'm sorry, but this really isn't a day to be spent in the studio, behind closed walls!«

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Opening hours: Monday–Friday: 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Saturday: 10 a.m.–2 p.m.